



NEWS from Delaware Congressman **Michael N. Castle**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CASTLE ANNOUNCES OPEN HOUSES TO UNVEIL CHESAPEAKE AND DELAWARE "MULTIPURPOSE RECREATIONAL TRAIL" CONCEPTUAL DESIGN

Castle's plan to create recreational area along C & D Canal continues to move forward

DELAWARE CITY, DE -- Delaware Congressman Mike Castle today announced two public meetings that he will be hosting on December 5 and 6 with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to unveil the conceptual design for a new multipurpose recreational trail along the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal. The design is based on public feedback regarding Castle's initial vision for the area that was unveiled in the spring to Delaware and Maryland constituents.

DETAILS OF THE MEETINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Monday, December 5, 5 to 8 p.m. --- Presentation at 6:30 p.m.

Gunning Bedford Middle School Cafeteria
801 Cox Neck Road
Delaware City, Delaware

Tuesday, December 6, 5 to 8 p.m. --- Presentation at 6:30 p.m.

Bohemia Manor High School
Cafeteria
Rt. 213, 2755 Augustine Herman Hwy.
Chesapeake City, Maryland

Castle has been working with the Corps, DNREC, DelDOT, New Castle County, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Delaware City, Chesapeake City and other key recreational and economic development groups to create a recreational area along the C and D Canal. He secured \$150,000 in Congressional funding to study such opportunities and has been collaborating with the above agencies over the past year to finalize exactly what the multipurpose trail would look like and how it would be constructed, including a mix of running, walking, biking and rollerblading trails with trail heads, rest stops and improved fishing piers. In addition, current Corps recognized uses, such as, hunting, fishing, dog-training, horseback riding, etc. would continue.

Castle secured an additional \$75,000 in federal funding earlier this month to help with the next phase -- the predesign work phase -- which will entail engineers actually translating the plan into action. Finally, the construction phase will follow. Castle has made the development of this recreational area one of his top priorities in Congress because he believes in the need to provide such activities in the quickly growing area of Southern New Castle County and Cecil County, Maryland.

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Additionally, if someone cannot attend the meeting, but still would like to see the conceptual design, they may go to <http://www.nap.usace.army.mil/Projects/CD/index.htm>. The Army Corps will be accepting comments through December 23, 2005 at the following addresses:

1. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
100 Penn Square East, Wanamaker Bldg.
Attn: Merv Brokke, Rm. 600
Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390

2. Fax: (215) 656-6820

3. Email: mervin.e.brokke@nap02.usace.army.mil

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